

## HOUSE RESOLUTION 221

By Brown

A RESOLUTION to honor the members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. for their meritorious service to the State of Tennessee and welcome them for the 80<sup>th</sup> South Eastern Regional Conference, March 15-18, 2012, in Chattanooga.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to the members of those exemplary organizations who have given unselfishly of themselves, their time, and their talents to perpetuate the public good; and

WHEREAS, one such outstanding organization is Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, which will be holding its 80<sup>th</sup> South Eastern Regional Conference in Chattanooga on March 15-18, 2012; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., was founded at Howard University in Washington, D.C., in 1908, by sixteen members, including Ethel Hedgeman Lyle, who was the organization's visionary founder; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority has grown from one undergraduate chapter to an international organization with more than 250,000 members in over 950 chapters throughout the United States and across six countries; and

WHEREAS, an integral part of the national organization, the South Eastern Region has given rise to three national presidents: Maude Brown Porter in 1931, Arnetta G. Wallace in 1953, and Julia B. Purnell in 1962; and

WHEREAS, also the home of Harriet J. Terry, one of the sorority's distinguished founding members, the South Eastern Region consists of 104 chapters with membership that includes judges, teachers, state senators, attorneys, physicians, homemakers, school superintendents, and outstanding, dynamic women from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, an active community of civic leaders and public servants, the region has previously held three national conventions in Nashville at Fisk University in 1928, Tennessee A&I State University in 1954, and the Opryland Hotel in 2004; and

WHEREAS, hosted by South Eastern Regional Director Adrienne Pope Kelly Washington and Surpeme Basileus Carolyn House Stewart, Esq., this year's conference invites members from Alabama, Tennessee, and Mississippi to engage in meaningful discussions on service and community under the theme "Witness the Vision, Experience the Service of the ATM (Alabama, Tennessee, and Mississippi)"; and

WHEREAS, faithfully demonstrating the national program "Global Leadership Through Timeless Service", the region has implemented the "SMART" initiative, which emphasizes strategic planning and implementation, measurable objectives, attainable goals, relevance to current needs, and service that is transferable for enhanced impact; and

WHEREAS, for over a century, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. has promoted and practiced the all-important principles of public service and community activism, and it is fitting that we recognize and welcome its devoted members to the South Eastern Regional Conference to be held in Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and recognize the members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated for their meritorious service to the State of Tennessee, thank them for their many years of dedication to the highest ideals of human welfare and public service, and offer our sincerest welcome as they attend the 80<sup>th</sup> South Eastern Regional Conference, March 15-18, 2012, in Chattanooga.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.